non-scheduled formulation if it considers necessary so to do in public interest. As a result NPPA has fixed price in case of 27 non-scheduled formulation packs under para 10(b) and companies have reduced price voluntarily in case of 60 formulation packs. Thus, in all, prices of 87 packs of control free drugs have got reduced as the result of the intervention of NPPA.

The NPPA has also stepped up enforcement activities and created separate enforcement division to check whether the drugs are being sold by the companies on the prices fixed by the NPPA.

(c) and (d) Consequent upon the reduction in the rate of Excise Duty on medicines from 16% to 8% notified by the Ministry of Finance, Department of Revenue *vide* notification no. 4/2008-Central Excise dated 01.03.08 and the rate of abatement from 42.5% to 35.5% *vide* notification no. 14/2008-Central Excise (N.T.) dated 01.03.2008, all manufacturers and marketing companies of formulations packs were advised by NPPA to ensure that the benefit of this excise duty reduction and the reduced rate of abatement is passed on to consumers through reduced Maximum Retail Price (MRP) through Guideline no. 2/2008 dated 10th March, 08. NPPA has noticed through the price list submitted by the companies that these companies are passing on the benefits of excise duty cuts to the customers. Further, NPPA is also taking similar initiative to pass on the benefit of recent excise cuts announced by the Govt. *vide* notification no. 58/2008 - CE dated 07.12.08 to the customers.

Expansion of fertilizer units

1275.SHRI C. RAMACHANDRAIAH: Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the public sector fertilizer companies in the country are manufacturing fertilizers upto there installed capacities;

(b) if so, whether any expansion have been envisaged to overcome the shortages;

(c) if not, which companies are working below capacity and the details thereof; and

(d) he reasons for working below capacity?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI B.K. HANDIQUE): (a) to (d) Details regarding capacity utilization of fertilizers by Central Public Sector Fertilizers Companies during 2007-08 are indicated below:-

(in '000' MT)

Name of the Company	Operational capacity		Production		Percentage Capacity Utilisation	
	Urea	Phosphatic Fertilizers	Urea	Phosphatic Fertilizers	Urea	Phosphatic Fertilizers
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
National Fertilizers Limited (NFL)	3230.7	-	3268.2	-	101.2	-
Bramaputra Valley Fertilizer Corporation Ltd. (BVFCL)	555.0	-	329.3	-	59.3	-

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
Rashtriya Chemicals & Fertilizers Ltd. (RCF)	1706.8	300.00	1832.3	468.4	107.4	156.1
Madras Fertilizers Limited (MFL)	486.8	840.0	440.5	35.1	56.9	4.2
Fertilizers and Chemicals Travancore Ltd. (FACT)	-	633.5	-	425.1	-	67.1

FACT and MFL have achieved lower capacity utilization during 2007-08 on account of financial constraints and unprecedented increase 'in the cost of inputs, which effected continuous production of fertilizers by these companies. Production of urea by Bramaputra Valley Fertilizer Corporation Ltd. (BVFCL) was also affected due to shut downs on account of technical problems and limitation of availability of gas.

Keeping in view the new investment policy announced by the Govt. of India recently, various Public Sector Undertaking/ Co-operatives like Rashtriya Chemicals & Fertilizers Ltd. (RCF), Krishak Bharati Cooperative Ltd. (KRIBHCO, National Fertilizers Limited(NFL) etc. are in the process of taking investments decisions for expansion of capacity, based on availably of assured supply of natural gas.

IFFCO plant in Orissa

1276.SHRI PYARIMOHAN MOHAPATRA : Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is aware that IFFCO plant at Paradeep in Orissa does'nt have a railway siding;

(b) if so, the quantum of loss caused to IFFCO thereby and inconvenience faced by the plant and the Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises linked to IFFCO; and

(c) the measures taken/contemplated to solve the problem?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI B.K. HANDIQUE): (a) M/s Indian Farmers Fertiliser Cooperative Limited (IFFCO), Paradeep does not have a Railway siding within the Plant.

(b) The quantum of loss caused to IFFCO due to non-availability of Railway Siding within the plant based on past dispatches is as below:

Year	Despatch Qty. in MT by rail	Additional cost in lakh
2005-06	26791.75	64.04
2006-07	721247.55	1221.90
2007-08	851636.30	1538.56

The above losses will further increase upon increase in production/dispatch. The total loss at full capacity dispatch is expected to be Rs.34.69 crore per annum.

(c) IFFCO has got the Rail Transport Clearance from Ministry of Railways for in-plant Siding for its Paradeep Plant. The Preliminary Engineering cum Traffic Surveys (PETS) were conducted by M/s RITES Ltd. And M/s K.V.R. Rail Infra Consultancy Services for various alternatives. The only feasible